GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:395
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
RESERVATION/ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SC/ ST/ OBC IN PRIVATE SECTOR
Pathak Shri Brajesh;Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Government has constituted a Group of Ministers to engage in a dialogue with industry to explore mechanism for increasing employment opportunities for SC/ST in the private sector;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The progress made by the said Group so far;

(d) Whether reservation for OBCs in the Private Sector is also being considered by the Government;

(e) If so, the details thereof;

(f) The time by which the Group of Ministers is likely to submit its report to the Government; and (g)The steps taken by the government to expedite the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MEIRA KUMAR)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.395 for 21-4-2005 by Shri. Brajesh Pathak and Shri. Ganesh Singh, Members of Parliament regarding Reservation/Employment opportunities for SC/ST/OBC in Private Sector

(a): Yes Sir;

(b): The details of composition and terms of reference of the Group of Ministers

(GOM) are given below:

(i) Composition:
1.Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;

2.Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways;

3.Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Minister of Steel;

4. Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance;

5.Shri P.R. Kyndiah, Minister of Tribal Affairs and Minister of Development North Eastern Region;

6.Shri Kamal Nath, Minister Commerce and Industry;

7. Shri H.R. Bharadwaj Minister of Law and Justice;

8. Smt. Meira Kumar, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment;

9.Shri Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications and Information Technology; and

10. Shri Kapil Sibal Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Minister of State

(IC) of the Department of Ocean Development.

(ii) Terms of Reference:

The GOM has been constituted to examine the issue of affirmative action, including reservation, in the private sector. The GOM will initiate a dialogue with industry to see how best the private sector can fulfill the aspirations of the youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c):The GOM ascertained the response of industry and trade and thereafter held consultations with the representatives of four apex associations of industry and trade located in New Delhi viz: Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Confederation of Indian Industry, Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India and PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

(d): No Sir;

(e): Does not arise;

(f) and (g): No specific time frame can be indicated at this stage.